

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 SY-05 CPR-01 /024 R

DRAFTED BY AGRIC:FAS:GSBROWN  
APPROVED BY EB/OFP/FPD:PDTAYLOR  
FAS:ABERNITZ  
AS:RASMITH  
OS:HWILHELM  
S:JCWHITE  
AGRIC:ERBEVIS  
TATE:NEA/AFN/ALEGGIO

-----042187 221404Z /53

P 221355Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

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FOR AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAGR, TS, OVIP (BELKHODJA, HASSAN)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE BELKHODJA

1. MR. JOSEPH A. SIMPKINS, BOARD CHAIRMAN TIFFANY INDUSTRIES, MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO, INFORMED ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE WHITE JUNE 10, THAT TUNISIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAD APPRISED HIM THAT MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE BELKHODJA PLANS VISIT U.S. MID-JULY. SIMPKINS ALSO RE-ITERATED BELKHODJA'S WISH FOR INVITATION FROM SECRETARY BERGLAND.

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2. USDA SUGGESTS MINISTER BELKHODJA VISIT USDA 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY, JULY 15 FOR MEETING WITH SECRETARY BERGLAND. THIS TIME BLOCKED ON CALENDARS SECRETARY BERGLAND AND DEPUTY SECRETARY WHITE.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER TO MINISTER BELKHODJA. MINAG SHOULD UNDERSTAND INVITATION IMPLIES

NO FINANCIAL OBLIGATION TO USDA, I.E., TRIP WOULD BE  
FINANCED BY TUNISIANS.

4. HIS EXCELLENCY  
HASSAN BELKHODJA  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE  
TUNIS, TUNISIA

DEAR MR. MINISTER: MR. JOSEPH A. SIMPKINS, CHAIRMAN  
OF THE BOARD, TIFFANY INDUSTRIES OF ST. LOUIS, MISS-  
OURI, HAS INFORMED ME THAT YOU PLAN TO VISIT THE UNITED  
STATES IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IF YOUR PROGRAM PERMITS, WE  
WOULD BE HAPPY INDEED TO HAVE YOU VISIT THE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE IN WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH SECRETARY BERGLAND  
CURRENTLY IS IN THE FAR EAST WHERE HE WILL ATTEND THE  
MEETING OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL IN MANILA, I AM SURE THAT  
HE WILL WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT WITH YOU. I AGREE  
WITH THE SECRETARY THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR MINISTERS OF  
AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY TO BE PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED BUT ALSO  
TO UNDERSTAND THEIR COUNTERPARTS' VIEWS OF AGRICULTURE IN  
THE WORLD TODAY. PARAGRAPH. IF CONVENIENT MR. MINISTER,  
I SUGGEST YOU MEET WITH SECRETARY BERGLAND FRIDAY, JULY 15  
AT 10:00 A.M. THAT AFTERNOON YOU MAY WISH TO VISIT  
THE USDA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER AT BELTSVILLE,  
MARYLAND. THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND YOU COULD BEGIN YOUR VISIT  
TO THE REAL UNITED STATES; JULY IS A GOOD TIME TO VISIT  
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OUR GREAT MID WEST. THE CORN AND SOYBEANS SHOULD BE OFF  
TO A GOOD START. PARAGRAPH. I AM SURE THAT YOUR HOST,  
MR. SIMPKINS, WILL DEVELOP AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM TO FAMILIAR-  
IZE YOU WITH THE BEST OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE. BUT IF WE  
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MAY BE OF ASSISTANCE IN  
ANY WAY, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON US.

SINCERELY,  
/SIGNED/  
JOHN C. WHITE  
ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

5. REQUEST CONFIRMATION BELKHODJA'S VISIT SOONEST.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL VISITS, INVITATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE144737  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** FAS:GSBROWN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770222-1256  
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**Line Count:** 109  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 9d7ee378-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AGRE  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2069922  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE BELKHODJA  
**TAGS:** EAGR, OVIP, TS, (BELKHODJA, HASSAN)  
**To:** TUNIS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9d7ee378-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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